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SIPDIS

SIPDIS, SENSITIVE

INFORM CONSULS

E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: TFJA01 SITUATION REPORT NO. 002 AS OF 1700 EDT

SUNDAY, AUGUST 19, 2007

HURRICANE DEAN STATUS

1. (U) NORAD reports Hurricane Dean is on a more southerly route, with the eye likely passing 17 nautical miles south of Kingston. The National Hurricane Center predicts 5-10 inches of rain, with up to 20 inches in isolated areas. Embassy Kingston reported increasing winds at 1500 EDT.

2. (U) Dean is projected to pass 53 nautical miles south of the Caymans August 20 at 1000 EDT, with hurricane force winds of 150 mph.

3. (U) Dean is scheduled to make landfall in the Yucatan August 21 at 0600 EDT, with sustained winds of 160 mph.

4. (U) Dean is projected to pass 132 nautical miles north of Belize City August 21. (NORAD/Taskforce telcon)

EMBASSY OPERATIONS - JAMAICA

¶5. (U) Ambassador Johnson is prepared to declare a disaster even if the GOJ is prevented from issuing a similar declaration due to political considerations. The GOJ is prepared to accept USG assistance.

¶6. (U) The GOJ shut down electrical power and water in high flood areas. Embassy Kingston has generator fuel for 10 days.

¶7. (U) SOUTHCOM informed Embassy Kingston that the USS Wasp has been rerouted to Jamaica to provide necessary support.

¶8. (U) The number of Peace Corps volunteers at Embassy Kingston is now 107.

¶9. (U) Post sent a Warden Message regarding Embassy closures August 20 and 21.

¶10. (U) Most Amcits have left south coast hotels. (Embassy Kingston/Taskforce telcon)

AMERICAN CITIZENS - MEXICO

¶11. (U) OFDA and consular officers deployed to Cozumel, Playa del Carmen, and Cancun.

'12. (U) Extra flights were added, and carriers are considering further increases.

¶13. (U) Consulate Merida estimates up to 60,000 Amcits in the Yucatan, most concentrated in Cozumel, Playa del Carmen, and Cancun.

¶14. (U) Embassy Mexico Command Center will operate 24

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'hours: www.mexicotaskforce.gov. (Embassy Mexico City/Taskforce telcon)

EMBASSY OPERATIONS - BELIZE

¶15. (U) Radio stations-in Belmopan have been reporting every two hours on Dean. Those living on or visiting the outer islands are moving inland.

¶16. (U) Embassy Belmopan is considered safe (located 50 miles inland). Embassy housing is being fortified with hurricane shutters. Embassy Staff are all accounted for and have been told to hold fast. The Embassy has enough fuel to run generators if needed, for up to 10 days. The Embassy tested the Warden System Thursday and Friday.

¶17. (U) The Peace Corps plans to move volunteers to Belmopan by August 20.

¶18. (U) Embassy Belmopan has been in contact with air carriers, which report they are not experiencing delays.

AMERICAN CITIZENS - BELIZE

¶19. (U) Clinics in Corzal with Amcit patients and staff heeded advice to discharge patients and move staff inland.

¶20. (U) There are 7,500 Amcit residents and approximately 4,000 Amcit visitors. (Embassy Belopan/Taskforce telcon)

CA TASK FORCE 2

¶21. (U) The call center was brought up August 19 at 0800 EDT. Staff had received 59 calls as of 1300 EDT, 18 for Hurricane Dean, 9 for the Peru earthquake, and 32 other OCS calls.

¶22. (U) Embassy Kingston sent a Warden Message. (Taskforce CA Taskforce e-mail)
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